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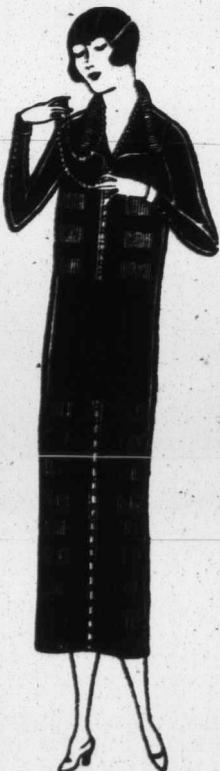
FIVE CENTS PER COPY

WINNERS IN THE FREE DAY

will be announced the following week

COATS of Friendly Warmth \$15.50 to \$59.50

Within this price range everyone can be satisfied. There is a good variation in the best styles for this winter giving each model a touch of originality. They are made of the season's finest fabrics and are elegantly trimmed. Fur collars and cuffs, many of them. Beautiful silk linings are used, and many are interlined.



Attraction Street and Afternoon DRESSES \$8.50 to \$33.50

Good taste and originality is manifest in these smart dresses for street wear, for afternoon and evening parties. One does not usually find such quality and styles at these low prices. Rich furs are used for trimmings in some, others are beautifully hand embroidered, iridescent beads reflect joyous hues in harmony with the Christmas festivities.

DRESSES designed for larger Women \$16.50 to \$25.50

Women of well developed figures are invited to view our collections of dresses for the larger women, which bespeak the same elegance, trimmings and originality that characterize our apparel for slender women. They are especially designed as to give graceful lines and slenderizing effect sizes up to 36-1-2.

A. D. Farrah & Company
Newcastle, N. B.

A Thousand Stories in Lake District of Manitoba Says Canadian Authoress

Martha Ostenso Gave Best First Novel of Year that Setting

Miss Martha Ostenso, who was awarded the \$15,000 prize and royalties on the book for the best first novel submitted during the past year in a contest organized jointly by Dodd, Mead & Company, Pictorial Review and Famous Players-Lasky Corporation, is a twenty-four-year-old school teacher from Manitoba. Miss Ostenso's novel will be serialized, filmed and published in book form in 1925. The story, which is called "The Passionate Flight," deals with the farmers of the Western Prairies and portrays the romance of one whose ambition to soar beyond the black loam led to dramatic consequences.

More than 1,500 manuscripts were submitted. The judges state that Miss Ostenso's was so far superior that no other story seriously rivaled it.

A brief sketch of her life and the circumstances which inspired her novel, as related by Miss Ostenso, follows:

"Where the long arm of the Hardangerfjord penetrates farthest into the rugged mountains of the coast of Norway, the Ostenso family has lived in the township that bears its name since the days of the Vikings. The name means 'Eastern Sea' and was assumed centuries ago by an adventurous forerunner who dreamed of extending his holdings over the mountains and through the lowlands of Sweden eastward to the very shores of the Baltic. Although his dreams never came true, the family name recalls it and the family tradition of land-holding has persisted unbroken; the part of the land that borders the lovely fjord is still in his possession, handed down from eldest son to eldest son.

"My father, a young son, was free to indulge his roving disposition. A few years after his marriage to my mother he decided to emigrate to America.

"My mother's parents lived high up in the mountains, remote from the softening influence of the coast towns. At their home it was, near the little village of Haukeland, that I was born. This, the first of many small towns to which I have lived, is known to me only through hearsay, for when I was two years old we came to America.

"The story of my childhood is a tale of seven little towns in Minnesota and South Dakota. Towns of

the field and prairie all, redolent of the soil from which they had sprung and eloquent of that struggle common to the farmer the world over, a struggle but transferred from the Ostenso and Haukelands of the Old World to the richer loam of the new. They should have a story written about them—those seven mean, yet glorious little towns of my childhood! In one of them, on the dun prairies of South Dakota, I learned to speak English. What a lovely



Martha Ostenso

language I found it to be, with words in it like pall and funeral and alone, and ugly words, too; like laughter and cack and scratch! What strange sounds the new words made to me.

"Later, in another of the little towns, I learned that it was fun to make things with words. It was while living in a little town in Minnesota that I became a regular contributor to the Junior Page of the Minneapolis Journal, and was rewarded for my literary trial-balloons at the rate of eighty cents a column. In the public school of that little town there still hangs, perhaps, a large print of a rural scene in a resplendent frame, with a neat name-plate at the bottom of it. That also came from the Journal, in recognition of an essay which, in my eleven-year-old opinion, placed me ahead of Emerson. "When I was fifteen years old, I bade good-bye to the Seven Little

Towns. My father's restless spirit drove him north to the newer country. The family settled in Manitoba.

"It was during a summer vacation from my university work that I went into the lake district of Manitoba, well towards the frontiers of that northern civilization. The story that I have written lay there, waiting to be put into words. Here was the raw material out of which Little Towns were made. Here was human nature stark, unattired in the consolation of a smoother, softer life. A thousand stories are there still, to be written.

"My novel lay back of my mind for several years before I began to write it. In the intervals of those years, spent as a social worker in a great city, I often compared the creaking machinery of skyscraper civilization with the cruder, direct society of the frontier. Slowly, as my work among the needy brought me nearer and nearer to the heart of the city, the border line began to be limned clearly against the murkier background of my work-a-day scene.

"A year ago last summer I returned to Manitoba. The approach to remembered scenes renewed my interest in my story, the character stood out clear-cut at last, and I made the first draft of the novel.

"I was not satisfied with the result and laid the manuscript aside, with no definite purpose regarding it. It was not until spring that I returned to the city and learned of the Curtis Brown contest. At was with diffidence and reluctance that I was persuaded by friends, who thought well of the early draft and its possibilities, to rewrite it in time to submit it for consideration. At best, I felt, if it were as good as my friends said, it might not be wholly ignored.

NEWCASTLE HAD TWO FIRES NEW YEARS' DAY

Fire, which broke out in the barn of Fraser Harris, on New Year's night at 6:30 o'clock, for a time threatened the Miramichi Hotel, Advocate office building, Thos. Kinsell's store and J.D. Paulin's store on Castle Street. When the fire was noticed the flames had gained rapid headway and speedily spread through the house and to the barn and garage adjoining. Only through the excellent work of the Fire Department was the blaze kept from spreading to buildings in the near vicinity. The firemen

put up a plucky fight in the intense cold weather and received the commendation of the citizens in general for their efficient work. Mr. Harris saved some of his furniture and carried only \$1100 insurance on the property destroyed. Mr. Harris also lost his horse, cow and two pigs as well as a large quantity of fresh meats.

New Year's Day at noon the firemen were called out for a blaze at the home of Wm. Kitchen but the damage done was slight.

DELEGATION GOING TO FREDERICTON TO PRESENT CASE

There is a strong agitation for a suitable ferry boat to convey traffic between Chatham and the north side of the river. This ferry links up Chatham with Bathurst and other places in the northern part of the province. The old boat on the route to the end of last season had practically outlived its usefulness.

At a meeting of the Chatham Town Council it was decided to send a delegation to Fredericton to take up the matter with the Provincial Government. The Board of Trade will be asked to name members and it is possible that the delegation will be accompanied by J.S. Martin, M.L.A. and one or two other members from the county.

Mr. Martin has already been handed a petition from residents of the north side of the river urging him to use his best efforts to have a free ferry service. If this advantage could be secured it would be a great boon to farmers of the district.

NORTHUMBERLAND'S POPULATION

Volume 1 of the statistics of the census of 1921 has been issued and contains much information of interest. The facts with regard to the constituency of Northumberland are of course of the greater interest in this vicinity.

Northumberland is given a total population of 33,985, made up as follows:—English 8299, Irish 8498, Scotch 7964, other British races 33, French 8264, Belgian 21, Dutch 19, Finnish 1, German 38, Hebrew 59, Polish 3, Russian 17, Scandinavian 190, other European races 5, Chinese and Japanese 15, Syrian 73, other Asiatic races 11, Indian 407, Negro 2 unspecified 61.

The Town of Chatham has a population of 4506 and the Town of Newcastle 3507. The population of the several parishes of Northumberland County are as follows:—

CANADA'S TRADE FELL OFF BY \$45,000,000 LAST YEAR

A reduction of approximately forty-five million dollars in the grand total of Canada's trade during the year ending December 31st 1924 as compared with the calendar year 1923 is indicated by available figures. Trade figures for the 11 months ending November 30 have been compiled by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

The figures for December must necessarily be in the nature of an estimate as complete returns will not be available until about the middle of January. However, by assuming that the trade during the present month of December approached that of December 1923, it is possible to arrive at an estimate of the total trade.

Total imports into Canada during the past year will it is estimated be to the value of approximately \$819,000,000.

This is a decrease of more than ninety millions from the figures for 1923 when total imports reached the figure of \$903,030,515. Exports of domestic goods, however will show an increase over the 1923 figures. They will probably amount to approximately \$1,060,000,000 as compared with \$1,014,944,274 in 1923. The increase in the value of domestic exports will therefore probably amount to approximately forty five million dollars.

Alnwick 4333, Blackville 2794, Blissfield 1304, Chatham 2289, Derby 987, Glenelg 1266, Hardwicke 1787, Ludlow 1292, Nelson 2047, Newcastle 1784, North Esk 1780, Rogersville 2573, South Esk; 1325; Indian Reserve 411.

NORTHUMBERLAND LODGE INSTALLS

The annual St. John's Day of Northumberland lodge No. 17, F. & A. M. for the installation of officers was held on Tuesday afternoon at Masonic Hall when the new worshipful master A. Beaumont Williston and his slate of officers were installed. The complete list of officers is as follows:

A.B. Williston, worshipful master; Waldo Crocker, senior warden; Thos. Maltby, Junior warden; Jas. Falconer, Treasurer; H.K. Moody, secretary; J. Lester Jeffrey, senior deacon; Dr. J.A.M. Bell, junior deacon; C.P. Stothart, director of ceremonies; George He, senior steward; A.A. McTavish, junior steward; Wm. Teed, inside guard; F.W. Harris, Tyler. Following the installation a banquet was served and an impromptu program carried out.

LOCAL CURLING CLUB NAMES RINKS

The following are the rinks of the Newcastle Curling Club for this season:—

J. Russell sk	J. Sargeant sk
J. Stewart	C. McCallum
M. Jones	F. Matchett
E. McDonald	B. Green
R.W. Crocker sk	C.M. Dickison sk
R.C. Clarke	A. Brooks
F.E. Locke	W.H. Davidson
F. Dunn	C. Domavoa
J.E.T. Lindon sk	P.N. Brown sk
A.H. Cole	P. Russell
W.H. Teed	C. Murray
F.C. Hopkins	Leroy White

C.J. Morrissy sk	K.K. Galloway sk
P. Burchill	Jas. Stables
A.L. Barry	A.H. MacKay
W. Anderson	S. Dunn
D.S. Creaghan sk	A.J. Ritchie sk
H.H. Ritchie	T. Clarke
A. Forsythe	A. Astles
Harry McLean	R. Cotter
H.B. Cassidy sk	C. Sargeant sk
R.M. Dickison	A.M. McMurray
J.A. Vye	W. McCormack
Jas. Sargeant	G. Petrie
L. Jeffrey skip	A.S. Demiers sk
G. Dunn	A. Dickison
B. Jardine	J. Miller
M. Mitchell	A.A. McTavish

Wm. Gifford skip
C. Demers
C. McLaughlin
F. White

WILLIAM WHALEN FOUND DEAD IN HIS HOME AT CHATHAM

Wm. Whalen, a well known resident of Chatham, was found dead at his home on Pleasant street about 7 o'clock Monday evening. He had been in poor health for the past month and some time during the day was seized with a hemorrhage which caused his death. One of his neighbors endeavored to enter the house and finding the door locked became suspicious. Entrance was made and the unfortunate man was found sitting in chair, dead. Chief of Police Ian, and Coroner Dr. J. J. were summoned. They found that no inquest was necessary. The late Mr. Whalen was about 65 years of age and lived alone.

Town Topics Tid-bits on the Tip of Everybody's Tongue

Vol. 2 No 1 NEWCASTLE, N. B. Jan. 6 1925 FREE

The Welcome Guest

Visitors are welcome when preparations are complete to serve them. As for instance when you have plenty of Moirs Fruit and Plain Pound Cake in the house. And some Petit Beurre, Melba or some of the other biscuit dainties Moirs are making.

"My advertising of Moirs Chocolates has brought a great many Nova Scotian folks into mystores. They all demand your goods, remarking that there is no other make of chocolates like Moirs." From F.W. Fentz, formerly of Shebenaedie, now proprietor Standard Drug Stores, Border Cities, Sandwich and Windsor.